The Kerala Government kept with it a quantity of 83,000 tons of rice as part of the Central Pool against a total of 1.68 lakh tons of rice procured in KMS 2007-08 under the above mentioned arrangement and informed that this would not be lifted against the TPDS allocations. Since the above quantity of rice belonging to the Central Pool was available with the State Government of Kerala, the Government of India requested the State Government to lift its monthly APL allocations (of 17,056 tons) from August to December 2008 from out of the above rice stock of 83,000 tons held by it as part of Central Pool. Hence, it is not correct to say that the Central Government has stopped APL rice allocation to Kerala or has reduced its quota.

In addition, the Government of India has issued an additional adhoc/festival allocation of 50,000 tons of rice and 20,000 tons of wheat from May 2008 onwards.

Besides, the Government has also released in September 2008 a quantity of 60,000 tons of wheat under Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) to the State for September and October 2008 for distribution to retail consumers and another quantity of 60,000 tons of wheat in October 2008 foe sale to bulk consumers in the State for October and November 2008.

**Selling of wheat in the open market**

†55. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken a decision to sell nine lakh tonnes of wheat in the open market in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of wheat to be sold, month-wise;

(c) the reasons why Government took such decision; and

(d) the sale price of wheat announced by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) To check inflationary trends in food economy, Government has decided to release upto 10 lakh MT of wheat to State/UTs Governments under Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)] for distribution to household consumers and small processors during the month of September and October, 2008. In addition to above, 8.4 lakh MTs wheat has also been allocated by Government for sale to bulk consumers through open tenders by FCI during October and November, 2008. Details of State-wise allocation and rates are given in the Statement.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

***Statement***

*Details of the allocation of wheat along with the rate under OMSS (D) and open tender sale to various State/UTs during the months of September-November* 2008

| State | Allocation to State/ U.T. Governments for distribution to household consumers and small processors (In tonnes) | Rate at which allocation made to State/UT Governments. (Rs. per qtl.) | Allocation for bulk consumers for sale through tender by FCI (In tonnes) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 5,000 | 1358 | — |
| Andhra Pradesh | 50,000 | 1136 | 50,000 |
| Arunachal Pradesh | 10,000 | 1148 | — |
| Assam | 30,000 | 1132 | 30,000 |
| Bihar | 40,000 | 1090 | 40,000 |
| Chandigarh | 5,000 | 1021 | — |
| Chhattisgarh | 25,000 | 1123 | 25,000 |
| Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 1,000 | 1128 | — |
| Daman and Diu | 1,000 | 1133 | — |
| Delhi | 50,000 | 1027 | 50,000 |
| Goa | 5,000 | 1156 | — |
| Gujarat | 40,000 | 1088 | 40,000 |
| Himachal Pradesh | 25,000 | 1131 | 25,000 |
| Haryana | 30,000 | 1021 | 30,000 |
| Jammu and Kashmir | 30,000 | 1176 | 30,000 |
| Jharkhand | 20,000 | 1116 | 20,000 |
| Karnataka | 50,000 | 1161 | 50,000 |
| Kerala | 60,000 | 1185 | 60,000 |
| Lakshadweep | 1,000 | 1223 | — |
| Madhya Pradesh | 50,000 | 1078 | 50,000 |
| Maharashtra | 75,000 | 1121 | 75,000 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Manipur | 5,000 | 1276 | — |
| Meghalaya | 5,000 | 1177 | — |
| Mizoram | 5,000 | 1221 | — |
| Nagaland | 10,000 | 1142 | — |
| Orissa | 30,000 | 1135 | 30,000 |
| Puducherry | 1,000 | 1164 | — |
| Punjab | 40,000 | 1021 | 40,000 |
| Rajasthan | 30,000 | 1047 | 30,000 |
| Sikkim | 5,000 | 1162 | — |
| Tamil Nadu | 50,000 | 1154 | 50,000 |
| Tripura | 10,000 | 1239 | — |
| Uttar Pradesh | 40,000 | 1055 | 40,000 |
| Uttarakhand | 25,000 | 1036 | 25,000 |
| West Bengal | 50,000 | 1120 | 50,000 |

**Price rise**

56. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any definite proposal to give relief from the price hike on various essential commodities including vegetable to the BPL/APL card holders;

(b) whether quantum of wheat, rice, sugar, kerosene etc. fixed per person per BPL/APL card increased sufficiently in the context of the present price hike;

(c) if so, the details of the response of his Ministry on price hike; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (c) Government has taken several policy decisions in order to give relief from the price hike on rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil and kerosene to the BPL/APL card holders as listed below. Vegetables are not distributed under PDS.

1. **Rice and Wheat**: Allocation of foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is made for BPL and AAY families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population estimates of